Beggar Student."

SD AVENUE THEATRE—2 and 8—" Romany Ryc."

WALLACK'S PREATRE—2 and 8—" Lady Clare."

DTH AVENUE THEATRE—2 and 8—" Claire and the Forge Master."

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NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 12.

TEN PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.-Two dynamiteurs were arrested in England yesterday. - Charles Reade, the and Shendy are in a state of insurrection. = A medification of the Mexican Stamp act has been made. - The Empress of China has degraded a prince and four members of the Privy Council for their action in dealing with Tonquin affairs.

CONGRESS,-The Senate was not in session yesterday. - The House considered the Pension bill, It is not proposed by Mr. Cameron's lieutenants which appropriates over \$86,000,000. The Senate bili offering a reward for the rescue of the Greely party was passed. The Keifer-Boyn- In the light of the remarkable expression of ton resolution was adopted without a division.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.-Three Republican Congressional District Conventions were held in Brookchosen oppose Arthur and two favor him. == Joseph Agate, a wealthy retired merchant, of Youkers, was found to have committed suicide in Earle's Hetel. = In the Roosevelt Committee ex- It can hardly be possible that such efforts will Judge Russell denounced Anthony Comstock to or Devlin, = Theatre speculators were given a hearing by a committee of Aldermen. - Good Friday was observed in the Catholic and Episcopal churches, and most of the Exchanges were closed. - The New-York League baseball nine won an easy victory over the Yale nine. DOMESTIC.-The President sent to the House a

message on sea-coast defenses yesterday. XXIVth Congressional (this State) District vention promises to be a representative one, elected Titus Sheard and Hobart Krum and it is to be hoped that there will be no be delegates to the Chicago Convention. General Adam Badean has resigned as Consul-General at Havana. === The estimated decrease in the postal revenue for the present fiscal year is \$2,246,246. An old woman was found murdered in a secluded Maryland farm-house on Thursday, The spring exhibition of the Boston Art Club was opened yesterday. The bodies of six miners taken from the Pocahonthe Fieetwood murder in Illinois were brought to train. ____ The vapor stove makers have formed

THE WEATHER-TRIBUNE local observations indicate clear weather and slight changes in temperature, followed by increasing cloudiness and chances of rain late in the day. Temperature yesterday Highest, 54°; lowest, 41°; average, 4619°.

The arrest of a man named Daly with explosives in his possession in Wolverhampton, England, yesterday, shows the activity of the British police. It was announced to them some time ago that a dynamiteur would presently arrive in England, and already they have him and an assistant in custody, with evidence enough to give them each a term of penal servitude. Birmingham was headquarters for these conspirators, and the whole town has been thrown into a state of great excitement. Many dwellings have been searched by the police for concealed dynamite. An Englishman's house in these days is not so much his castle as it

It will take a good deal of assurance on the part of some of the well-known theatrical man- fashions of the day, but there has been a gradual agers of this city to declare, hereafter, that impairment of that vital power which used to they are opposed to ticket speculators, From the frank testimony given by one of these same much-abused speculators yesterday, before the Aldermen's Law Committee, it appears that the managers are only opposed to speculation when it is done by outsiders whom they cannot control, and who do not divide with the box office. This is not all news to the theatre-going public. It has long been apparent that the more objectionable features of this business could be abolished if the managers really wished it.

Now that the House has passed the Senate resolution offering a reward of \$25,000 for the London crowd and his imagination supplied discovery of the Greely party at Lady Franklin Bay, it is to be hoped the Navy Department will take prompt steps to make the fact known to all sealers and whalers going North. Their ships will be at Smith's Sound earlier than the Gov- course is had to the same expedients-noticeernment vessels, and the reward will stimulate ably that of a protracted and mysterious disapthem to keep a sharp lookout for any traces | pearance of the hero, whereby the herome is

of the Greely expedition. The United States | driven to the verge of distraction. The in-Government, of course, assumes no responsibility for any risk these Arctic seamen may incur; but, after all, it is not likely that they will run into needless danger. They know the perils which surround them too well.

The results of the New-York Congressional District Conventions held yesterday to elect delegates to the Republican National Convention were more or less mixed so far as preferences for Presidential candidates are concerned, except that strong opposition was shown to the Administration. In Kings County (Brooklyn) delegates were selected in the IId, IIId and IVth districts, while an adjournment was taken in the Vth. Of the delegates chosen, Mr. S. B. Dutcher is said not to have committed himself, except against Arthur. Mr. E. H. Hobbs is for Blaine or Edmunds; Mr. A. D. Baird is a Blaine man, while Mr. G. L. Pease is either for Blaine or Edmunds. Messrs. W. H. Beard and M. N. Day are friends of General Arthur. In the XXIVth District, made up of Otsego, Herkimer and Schoharie counties, the choice of the convention fell upon Speaker Sheard and Mr. Hobart Krum, both Blaine men.

THE CHOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The unanimity of feeling among the Republicans of Pennsylvania in favor of the nomination of Mr. Blaine is remarkable. Sixtyone counties have already chosen delegates to the State Convention which meets at Harrisburg on Wednesday next. Fifty counties instructed their representatives to vote in favor of Mr. Blaine, and there are uninstructed delegates who will vote the same way. One half if not more of the delegates from Philadelphia are for Mr. Blaine. In Allegheny County the majority of the delegates are instructed for him, with the probability of an addition to the number of his supporters when the contests from that county are settled. There have been forty delegates chosen from the Senate districts, of which number twenty-eight have been instructed for Mr. Blaine.

There are only six small counties yet to elect representatives, and it is probable that all of them will declare for Mr. Blaine. Hence it is as certain as any political event well can be that the delegates-at-large from Pennsylvania will all be supporters of Mr. Blaine. Twenty of the twenty-two district delegates to Chicago already chosen are instructed for him. It is clear, therefore, that Pennsylvania will be practically unanimous for Mr. Blaine; and that in spite of the opposition of Federal officials and the lieutenants of Mr. Cameron.

There is nothing more noteworthy in recent political events than the manner in which the Republican voters in that State have taken matters into their own hands. In the XIVth Congressional District, in which Senator Cameron resides, the delegates to Chicago were not only instructed for Mr. Blaine, but the convention was so suspicious of foul play that it would not deliver the credentials until the delegates had signed a written pledge to carry out the instructions. In many other counties where the people have been betrayed in past years similar pledges were required. But notwithstanding the care that has been taken in many cases to prevent misrepresentation, Congressman Bayne and other supporters of Mr. Blaine sound a note died. = Tribes between Berber of warning that should arrest attention throughout the State. They assert that a systematic effort is being made by the opponents of Mr. Blaine to secure control of the organization of the State Convention. For this purpose men, it is said, have declared themselves for Blaine with the purpose of betraying their constituents. to attempt to defeat the choice of delegates-atlarge who will vote at Chicago for Mr. Blaine. opinion in his favor, that would be ridiculous. But an effort is to be made to retain control of the party organization, to elect friends of counter to the expressed will of the people.

succeed. But the Republicans of Pennsylvania his face as a liar, = Commissioner Thompson have been so often betrayed that it is only and his deputy denied the a legations of Contract- natural that they should look with concern upon such an attempt at this time. Fair-minded Republicans, whether in favor of Mr. Blaine or not, can only regard with indignation the efforts of the Cameron lieutenants in Pennsylvania to perpetuate the old machine or to stir up strife. So far the canvass in that State has been harmonious and enthusiastic. The contrayal of the people.

CHARLES READE.

The death of Thackeray left Dickens without a rival as the leader of English fiction. When Dickens passed away in the maturity of his powers, with one of his greatest novels half finished and with a plot partly worked out, yet tas mine were identified. ____ Further details of so artfully concealed as to baffle the ingenuity of his oldest readers, the succession was a delight. == The coroner's inquest in the Niagara batable question. Perhaps no other candidate Falls tragedy was begun. - By removing a rail for the vacant leadership would have received on a bridge, a miscreaut wrecked an Ohio express so many suffrages at that time either in England or America as Charles Reade. He had reached his highest level in "Very Hard Cash." In earnestness of purpose, intensity of power, animation of dialogue, vigor of style, and the varied resources of humor, pathos, literary artifice and dramatic feeling, this novel had been a marked advance upon all his previous work. Neither "Griffith Gaunt" nor "Foul Play" had improved his position; but his admirers were confident that another story as powerful as the chronicle of the sorrows, passions and fortunes of the Dodd family, with clusions on this subject. Some of these are fewer mannerisms and vagaries of type and a more evenly balanced and less melodramatic form of narrative, would give him the preeminence among living English novelists. The most mournful reflection which the news of his sudden death inspires is this reminiscence of expectations unfulfilled. Mr. Reade never again touched the high level of "Very Hard Cash," nor even surpassed either "White Lies" or "The Cloister and the Hearth." His later works have been marred by fe ser blemishes and have been in closer accord with the literary set the reader's blood tingling in every vein.

It is not difficult to understand why Mr. Reade failed to contribute to English fiction any work that could be ranked, for example, as high as either "Adam Bede," "Romola" or "Middlemarch," He was deficient in imagination and creative genius. His best plot-that of point of view he is compelled to oppose the "White Lies "-was purchased outright with changes in the Tariff contemplated by a Dema view to its adaptability for an English play, and ultimately reworked and enlarged for an elaborate romance. His perseverance and in- Free Traders. dustry in reading newspapers and keeping commonplace-books betokened a consciousness of his own limitations. Dickens studied faces in a favor in the Protectionist camp. His home him with grotesque characters, comical sayings and strange adventures in keeping with the distorted features. Mr. Reade did not have this creative instinct. In nearly all his plots re-

cidents and surroundings shift from one book to another, but the characters do not changethe heroines, especially, retaining common traits and peculiarities. The commonplacebooks furnished the author with a great diversity of raw material for use and adaptation. But the flame of creative genius burned feebly. Inherent vitality and intellectual vigor could not compensate for this default in imagination. A vigorous, 1acy style, vivid pictorial

power and dramatic instincts were among his characteristics. His contempt for the conventional processes of literature was evinced at the outset by absurdities of punctuation and type. His intense vitality required half a dozen exclamation points for adequate expression. In like manner, his eye for dramatic situations misled him. He sought to time sensational effects so accurately that the close of every magazine instalment should leave the reader in a state of excitement and suspense. These mannerisms and the constant strain of melodrama in his romances created prejudice against him. Yet with all these defects of method and original suggestion, how strong, wholesome and intense were the effects produced! When he was at his best, every page seemed to be quivering with nervous energy. Other novelists seemed to dip their pens in water, but he in blood and fire. No space was wasted in vapid dialogue or wearisome analysis of motives. Character was not described in set phrase, but was revealed by illuminating flashes of word or deed. Here a brilliant epigram would be inserted, and there a condensed bit of vivid description would be used, but the action of the story was never suffered to drag. And the reader, whether he was transported with Christic Johnstone to the Scotch fishing coast, or to the mediæval age with Gerard and Margaret, whether he was unravelling the mysteries of the Beaurepaire mansion, or following David Dodd's fortunes in a sea-fight, or disclosing abuses and wrongs in lunatic asylum, prison or trades-union, never escaped from the magnetic sway of the novelist's personality.

Charles Reade's biography has never been compiled. His readers have often fancied that he must have had actual service as a common seaman, or have studied and practised medicine and law. His life has been quiet and uneventful. An Oxford man taking high rank for classical attainments, he was trained for the law, but was self-apprenticed as playwright and novelist. His novels do not contain autobiography in disguise. Yet they reveal unerringly the manliness of his character, the passionate earnestness of his nature. His detestation of hypocrisy and cant, his hatred of injustice and wrong, his splendid courage and tremendous energy in working out practical reforms, in pleading the cause of the oppressed and in fighting the battle of the poor prisoner. the plundered author, and the victim of tradesunion or mad-house, gave him a preud preeminence as a novelist who was not writing either for money or reputation, but with positive ends and distinct moral purposes always before his eyes. In the literary loom which he so industriously plied, the strong fibre of his own pure, generous and resolute manhood was never once broken off, The world's working stock neither of morals nor of genius is so large that such a man can be easily spared. THE TRUEune's circle of readers has special cause for lamenting his death. It was in these columns that Mr. Reade first told the touching story of James Lambert, "the Hero and Martyr," and it was here again that he made his final appeal to Americans for justice in international copyright.

HIGH LICENSE ONCE MORE. Nothing has recently been heard of the High-License bill in the Legislature, and the impression is gaining ground that it is not going to get lyn yesterday; four of the delegates to Chicago Mr. Cameron as officers of the convention, to influence contests, and in others ways to run that "it looks as if the excise matter was to be let severely alone." It is greatly to be hope that all such reports are unfounded. The failure of the bill which provided for submitting a prohibition amendment to the people was a keen disappointment to many friends of temperance throughout the State. They expect, and it is generally expected, that this Legislature, Republican in both its branches, will pass some well-considered, sensible, practical measure for the more effectual restraint of the liquor traffic. "You would not give us this prohibition amendment; what will you give us I"-that is the question which is addressed to the Senate and Assembly by the reform sentiment of the State. It is not a question that can be ignored. Let it be answered by the passage of the Highlicense bill.

The measure has met with the unqualified indorsement of many of the most carnest, experienced and sagacious of our temperance advocates. They believe it would meet the best expectations of all good citizens by wiping out a large share, and the worst share, of the saloons. There is every reason why it should be given a trial. There is no reason why it should not be.

THE "EDAX" LETTERS.

THE TRIBUNE does not ordinarily look to Free Traders for its economic arguments. As a sincere friend of American industries and a hearty advocate of the Protective Tariff, it stands to-day where it stood in Mr. Greeley's time, and speaks with no uncertain sound. A very large proportion of its readers share its convictions in regard to this fundamental question of National policy. But there are probably a few of its oldest, and more of its newest, readers who have not accepted its conconstitutional objectors, with a strong predilection for the opposite side of an argument. Many more are college graduates, who were taught in the class-room the principles of political economy from the English point of view, and acquired a bias toward Free Trade. For the benefit of this class of readers, who look with suspicion upon Protectionist logic, we are publishing from time to time a series of short letters from the pen of a most accomplished Free Trader-one who has not only carefully followed, but taken a prominent part in Tariff discussion during the last twenty years. He has been accustomed, as he frankly confessed in his first letter, to look at economic questions from the consumer's point of view, and to condemn legislation tending to make what the fifty, millions of consumers in the United States require dearer than it would have been without the legislation. But from his own ocratic House. His arguments deserve to be clearly studied and critically examined by "Edax," in taking the part of "the candid

friend," will naturally be received with great thrusts in exposing the hollowness of the stock phrases of the Free-Trade school will be keenly enjoyed by all friends of American industry. In previous numbers of this brilliant and incisive series he has proved how groundless and inane is the assumption that if the United States produced no part of the world's supply of manufactures, prices would be as low as they

are now, either here or in Europe. To-day he shows what sheer nonsense it is to speak of the burden of the Tariff as intolerable, when America has prospered as no other nation on the planet has prospered. He also ridicules the well-worn platitude that "Protection makes the rich richer and the poor poorer," and then contemptuously brushes aside the deductions of the lightning calculators among the Free Traders as to the actual cost of the present Tariff. Being an ingrained Free Trader himself, he will not admit that the Tariff is worth all that it has cost, but he considers it preposterous to clamor for changes so unscientific and senseless as those proposed in the Merrison bill, and to do this on the gratuitous assumption that Protection is not worth what it now costs. We heartily commend the "Edax" letters to all students of economic science and to honest thinkers generally.

GENERAL VIELE ON ARMY HYGIENE. General Viele's lecture on Camp and Carrison Sanitation, delivered before the Military Service Institute, certainly shows an astonishingly bad management of the arrangements for housing our troops. It is true that the statistics of other countries indicate equal ignorance and stupidity and recklessness in similar matters, but that does not make our own position any better. One explanation, we presume, is that until very recently there has been no science of hygiene, and that in the construction of forts and barracks and military posts the persons in authority looked first to the fitness of the site, second to the completeness of the defence, and I st, or perhaps not at all, to the health of the croops who were to occupy the place. And if there are at present 187 military posts in the United States, nearly all of which are unhealthy and inconvenient places of residence, it is to be feared that reform will be a work of considerable time. What is surprising, however, is the fact that the science of the Army should for so long a period have tolerated or ignored these serious evils, and that apparently no consistent or earnest effort should have been made to remedy them. According to General Viele, many if not all of the forts are unfit for human habitations, the military quarters being generally in the casemates, which of course constitute as cheerful and healthful residences as the dark landward arches of the Brooklyn Bridge. Why the troops should be lodged in the casemates it is difficult to understand. In most modern European forts there are roomy barracks, which, of course, can be abandoned in the event

of war. Here, however, officers and men alike are compelled to live in dark, damp, unventitated vaults, and naturally much sickness results. and the general indisposition to join the Army is reinforced. We do not treat our Army with distinguished consideration save when it is disbanded and its members, returned to citizenship, are supposed to be hungry for pensions. Then Congress becomes prodigal, and the taxpayer is shown no mercy. But the modest hardworking little force that does so much difficult frontier police duty obtains scant attention, and must put up with all manuer of abases. This question of camp and garrison sanitation does not contain any political material, and so has little or no chance of being taken up and looked to. But it is obvious that the evils exposed by General Viele are serious and urgent; that many valuable lives have been sacrificed to ignorance and care lessness already; and that steps ought to be taken at least to make a beginning of reform in the premises. The Army engineers might be instructed to examine and report upon the matter in conjunction with representatives of the medical corps, and thus the data for further reform measures would be obtained.

THE LESSON OF THE KEELY MOTOR. Once more the public exhibition of the Keely motor has been postponed, but nothing serious is the matter. "The inventor claims that the engine is all complete, but that the work of perfecting the graduation has not yet been finished. This final graduation of the vibrating power, it is claimed by Keely, is a very delicate operation." No doubt of it. It fact the whole motor business is full of delicate operations, and the stockholders fully appreciate this. The behavior of these people has been really beautiful, and no more striking proof could be furnished of the advance of the higher civilization. They have manifested a perfectly touching trustfulness, a confidence which fully deserves to be called Faith, since it is the evidence of things not seen, and a patience so calm and steadfast that the mere contemplation of it is elevating and ennobling.

Never was an inventor more fortunate in his financial backers. There lies the motor, as it were, in the dim recesses of the Unknowable, its principle veiled and uncomprehended, its mech an inscrutable mystery, nothing certainly known regarding it beyond the fact that it has absorbed large sums of money. Though the inventor has now been compelled to postpone the demonstration of his success many times, and though he has not succeeded in making anybody understand what he is driving at and though merely human patience might have been pardoned for succumbing under these prolonged and repeated trials, the lofty and invincible confidence of the stockholders remains unshaken, and they smile at the scoffings of the unregenerate public, and remark that no doubt in a time, and times, and half a time, or thereabouts.

more or less, the Keely motor will go. It will be interesting to observe if the descendants of the present stockholders inherit their truly Christian virtues though it is evident that when in the course of nature, Keely dies, unless he hands the secret and the method of securing its perpetual concealment to his children, there must be a crisis, But for some years longer it may be expected that this speciacle of the mystic motor and its stockholders will remain to rebuke the pessimism of the age, and to convince scepties that the simple faith of a primitive world survives and flourishes among us. So precious a lesson must not be lost. The motor needs an Historian. One who will approach the subject in a reverential spirit; who will describe the inventor's divings after the infathomable and soarings after the unattainable; who will show how the stockholders triumphed over every doubt, despite of disappointment, and how finally they peacefully passed to their rest without having seen the promised motor. but full to the last of unquenchable belief in its reality, and ready as ever to do battle for the oundness of a principle which they had never understood in the least. And this record will stand forth forever as a green easis in the dreary desert

puzzled horizontal reductionist; "why, whom do you take me for ? I'm not in the show business; I'm a member of Congress."

" It's all right, I know what I'm about," returned the door-keeper. I have been informed on good authority that you've got an elephant on your hands and that you're going to turn Congress into a bear garden some of these days." Without further remark Mr. Morrison followed the urbane usher.

Mr. W. G. George has beaten the record, by running ten miles in fifty-one minutes and twenty seconds. People who are fond of good running would do well to keep their eyes upon the man whom the Republican's nominate at Chicago.

Still another death resulting from the discharge of a pistol in the hands of a man who didn't know it was loaded. We have reached a stage in the world's history when the presumption that fire-arms are not loaded ought to be regarded as demonstrating that the person entertaining it is hopelessly name. The safety of society will soon demand that whoever is convicted of "not knowing that it was loaded" should be placed where no opportunity is afforded for a repetition of such deadly ignorance.

To Young Astronomer: Yes, there will be several eclipses this year. The most notable one can be seen all over the United States without the aid of moked glass. The quadrennial eclipse of the Democratic party, you know.

The Bullalo Courier observes that when it comes to the question of the desirability of the retirement of the Republican party "there is no difference of opinions among the members of the Democratic party.' In other words, Democrats may be hopelessly divided on the tariff, but they are unanimous in finding that the party's appetite is in prime condition.

PERSONAL.

Ex-Secretary Robeson is fishing for brook trout n Long Island.

Mr. A. Bronson Alcott is steadily regaining health and strength. Shortly before his death Mignet said: "If it were given me to live my life over again, I should wish it to be just what it has been.

Mme. Piccolomini, at the age of fifty years, finds herself without resources, and public subscriptions are to be taken up in her behalf.

The Carter family-to which all who bear that ame are supposed to belong-will have a National reunion, with speeches, poems, music, and plenty to car and to drink, on June 11, at Woburn, Mass. Emma Abbott says the acoustic properties of the Mormon Temple are better than these of any other building she ever sang in; so good, indeed, that once she stood at at one end of it and "heard one single pin dropped into a man's hat" at the other end. And it wasn't a rolling-pin, either.

General Edward F. Noyes, ex-Governor of Ohio and ex-Minister to France, who is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, will sail for Europe to-day on the City of Berlin. He will visit, among other places, Louden, Paris and Frankfort-on-the-Main, and is not to return until September. The trip is made on egal business.

Charles O'Conor has been spending a week in this city, staying at the Grand Hotel. But he says he prefers to remain at his Nantucket home, which e seldom leaves now except for short trips like the present one. Despite the evidences of extreme old age in his white hair and in his features, he appears to be in good health, and no one can converse with him, even casually, without being impressed by the mental vigor and activity which continue to char-acterize ail he says.

A Representative in Congress was showing a earty of friends, including a Fittsburg Disputch corespondent, who tells the story, through the Capitol one day, when he suddenly stopped, pointed to man who was crossing the rotunda, and inquired: Do you know who that is? " They didn't, "Well, what does he look like!" Seeing that the man in nestion evidently wore his big brother's trousers and had his hair cut by his mother, one of the party ventured to remark that he "looked like thunder."
Then the Representative told them that it was Great Objector Holman, and added: "You ought to see his son. He is the dude of all dudes in this city-full of them. When shoes are worn long, his project several inches further than any other dude's. When low-crowned hats are the sayle his looks like a mere pie-pan turned upside down on his head. When it is good form to wear pantaloons tight, you can see his arteries beat. His life seems to be one long struggle to smoke a cigarette and suck a cane at the same time."

WASHINGTON, April 11 .- The President attended services at St. John's Church this morning, and at the remainder of the day quietly at the White House, receiving no visitors..... The orney-General has returned from Philadelphia.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

MR. AEREY'S OPERATIC SEASON.

With to-day's performance at the Metropolitan Opera House the period for which Mr. Abbey indertook to give Italian opera to New-York comes to an end. It is no enews that financially his venture has been a failure It needed not a seventh son of a seventh son to forefell that New-York could not support wo such expensive establishments as the Academy of Music and the Metropolitan Opera House at the same time. The wealthy world of fashion, which in the nature of things is the supporter of Italian opera, was divided in its allegiance, and divided, moreover, in a manner which made an interchange of courtesies almost impossible. This threw the substantial maintenance of each house upon a limited number of people and the resultant loss was divided between the two managers. Naturally the largest share fell upon Mr. Abbey,

whose establishment was the most costly, and who pursued from the beginning a course which was novel in operatic management he insisted upon shouldering the burden hunself instead of parcelling it out among his employes and artists, The result has been that he has lost all the profits of three other well-paying enterorises, besides calling upon the stockholders of the Metropolitan for the full amount of their guarantee. The retrospect is not one to encourage the supporters of Italian opera, but ever since the exotic was transplanted into more northern climes frem the luxuriant courts of Italy, it has called for sacrifices and has received them. It is therefore not a novel spectacle now that the directors of the new house are as eager as they were a year ago to provide a series of entertainnents for next season.

In looking back upon the season just ending it is not discouraging to notice that the only opera besides "Faust" which has reached six performances is "Lohengrin"; that "Don Giovanni" and "Carmon" stand next in the list. and that the opera which attracted the most numerous audiences were "Lohengrin," "Don Giovanni," "Faust," "The Huguenots," "Robert the Devil," "The Prophet," "Menstofele" and "Gioconda." These are operas which command respectful attention, by virtue of their dramatic as well as musical excellence. The preference manifested for them over the light Italian operas can only be looked upon as an evidence of healthy progress in art. Mr. Abbey stimulated it at great cost to himself. For doing so he is entitled to the thanks of the public. The extraordinary attention which his benefit performance is exciting is an earnest that his efforts have been appreciated.

The fall season at the Metropolitan Opera House began on October 22 and ended at Christmas; the spring season began on March 10 and ends to-day. Within this period we have had sixty-one performances, including that of this afternoon; forty-five have been night performances, and sixteen matinees. The foliowing operas have been given, the titles being in the order of their production and the figures showing the number of performances each and that the opera which attracted the most

fifty-eight outside of New-York in his visits to Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincin-nati, St. Louis, Washigton and Baltimore.

NOVEL DRAMATIC INCIDENTS.

The stream of Easter novelties begins to flow to-night. "May Blossom," a new play, by Mr. David Belasco, will be brought out this evening at the Madison Belasco, will be brought out this evening at the Madison Square Theatre; and "Stolen Money," a new play by Messrs, Jessup and Gill, will be brought out this evening at the New Park Theatre, Mr. Irving, at the Star, given his wonderful performance of Louis XI to-nightfor the only time, in his present engagement—Lawrenes Barret appears to-night at the Lyceum Theatre in London, as Yorick. Many changes occur next week in the local theatres.

MUSICAL NOTES.

The St. Cecilia Society, of Newark, will give its annual concert at the Park Theatre in that city on Tuesday evening. The programme is a miscellaneous one in which Mme. Christine Dossert, M. Ovide Musin, Mr. Max Heinrich and Mr. Charles Richie will take part. Mr. Walter Damrosch is director of the society.

At the farewell matinec of the "Merry War" which takes place at the Casino to-day, satin kuapsacks are to be presented as a souvenir of the occasion. hight the last performance occurs, and on Monday "Falka," which has rim for ever two bundred nights in london, will be presented for the first time.

The first of Mme, Helen Hopekirk's final concerts will be given in Steinway Hall to-night. With the Standard Quartette Club the lady will play Schumana's Quintet op., 44, and an arrangement of a scene from Warner's "Götterdä:amerune;" with Mr. Berguer, Mendelsschn's Sozata for pianoforte and viologerily, op. 45. Her zelos will be piccea by Liszt and Greig, and Schuman's "Chranaval."

The Metropolitan Opera House was fairly well filled last night in view of the fact that it was Good Frin day. The boxes were naturally as a rule statemassed, but the orchestra and galleries had few vacant seats. The special programme aunounced by Mr. Abbey consisted of Rossini's "Stabat Mater" and a iscellaneous concert of a sacred character. The soluiets for the "Stabat Mater" were Mules. Fursch-Marit, Trhel and Signori Stagi and Novara, while the back of the stage was filled with the regular chorus. Signori Vinness and C. Campanini conducted. The "Fac ut Portem," admirbly sang by Mma. Trebeld, was encored, as was also Mme. Fursch-Mati's excellent rendition of the " Inflammatus," while Signor Novara's " Tro Peccatis" was also received with marked signs of approval. After the interval the orebistra gave the overture to Meyerbear's 'Dinorah." Mile, ids Corani readered: With Verdage Clad." M. Capout and "Proch's "Ave Maria Stella" and Mans. Labaca a gave the "O Salutaria" from Rossint's "Messa Boleanelle, "watte the chorus ended the concert with the "Sanctus" from the same work. the same work. It was stated that many additional subscripthe same work.

It was stated that many additional aubsertations had been received from the stock-holders for Mr. Abbey's benefit during the day. This ovening the anetion sile of the remaining scats and boxes will take place at the University Club Theatre, under the superintendence of Mr. Drager, the auctioneer. It is expected that the benefit will go a long way toward making good Mr. Abbey's losses.

A FEEE TRADER'S CHOICE.

A CONSUMER OPPOSES CHANGE OF TARIFF

"OUR INTOLERABLE BURDENS."

To the Editor of The Tribune: SIR: To the argument that we cannot afford to break down home industry, and thus to become dependent upon foreign sources of supply, one answer is heard : "The burden of the tariff is intolerable."

This is passing strange. How is it that we exist at all, then f We are a self-governing people, and it is quite remarkable that we tolerate intolerable burdens. If they are so bad, how comes it to pass that we grow and thrive beyond all other nations, and excite the admiration and envy of our neighbors? When a runner comes in first in the race, beating the best time on record, one does not quite understand how he can be a helpless cripple. For about a quarter of a century, how, I have been hearing cheap demagogues tell of our intolerable burdens, and looking for the Nation to get crushed by them, and the Nation has been getting rich and strong all the time. I begin to feel as President Lincoln 'did about General Grant's "dreadful habit": he wished some of the other Generals would get at the same bottle.

And we are " making the rich richer, and the poor poorer." It must be so, for our friend David A. Wells proved it as far back as 1866. But the poor people keep coming here from everywhere else-so many of them that we are making or trying to make laws to [keep some of them away. Will some one tell me why two millions of foreigners within the past three years should seek homes in a country where the burdens are intolerable? They came from aimost every other land, and not by accident or blindly. They came because relatives or friends had told them what they would find here. It is really wonderful that none of these friends wrote to them about the intoterable burdens.

But what are they? If, at tremendous risks to proclees, we are asked to get rid of the press tem because of its burdens, it would be well first to have some definite idea as to the cost of that system. Those who want change give us no definite facts, but only very large guesses which do not agree. Here is a pamphlet which asserts: "On all goods of home manufacture, we pay a tax nearly equal to the duty on similar foreign goods." That would be about \$2, 00,0 0000. But it is palpably false that any such tax is paul on all goods made here. For we export many largely. Many others, as has been shown, are sold far below the cost of like imported goods with duty. Those five-pound blankets, for instance, for which we pay about \$5, actually cost over \$9 when imported. So one

blankets, for instance, for which we pay about \$5, actually cost over \$9 when imported. So one writer "estimates" that the tax on home-made goods averages about half the duty, and sets down "cost [of protection, \$1,000,000,000"] another guesses one-third, and puts the cost at \$500,000,000,000; and Mr. Springer, with a courage born of ignorance, puts on record-his twelve separate guesses in a table, of which the footing is about \$557,000,000. Men who make such random guesses prove that they have no facts to give.

The truth is that no man can enter upon a candid comparison of prices without showing that the general level here differs but little from that of the other most prosperous countries. The single fact that we export to such countries products of almost every branch of manufacture proves this beyond doubt. Years ago the difference was much greater. That the country has paid heavily for the establishment of its industries, and more that I believe. But the question now is not what these industries did cost, but what they do cost, and whether it is worth while to keep them. If you had paid \$500 for a borse, and found him worth only \$400, would you shoot him?

Every estimate that I have seen of the present cost of retaining protective duties is essentially false, because based upon the assumption that present prices abroad have been reached, and will be held, without regard to duties here. But the truth is that no man can say how much prices of things have been, put down abroad by the manufacture here, or how high prices might rise if this country were to buy abroad the vast quantities we consume. The duty on steel rails, for instance, is \$17 per ton. It is not true that the same tax is aid on rails made here, for they sell at \$33.50, against \$22.50 in London. Neither is it true that the difference, \$11 per ton, is "a tariff tax." for the freight and other costs of importing exceed \$5 per ton. Moreover, the price abroad has been defreight and other costs of importing exceed \$5 per ton. Moreover, the price abroad has been depressed—how much we know not—because this country has become able to supply its own needs, and it is a deception to ignore that fact. And, country has become able to supply its own needs, and it is a deception to ignore that fact. And, finally, it would be dishonest to assume that the price abroad would not rise if we should import rails largely, as it did rise above \$50 in 1879-80, when we imported only one-sixth of the quantity used. In the light of these facts, whoever asserts that any tax whatever is now paid by consumers on rails made here is simply deceiving himself or trying to deceive others. Yet the forms of deception here illustrated run through every one of the trying to deceive others. Yet the forms of decep-tion here illustrated run through every one of the many estimates that I have seen of the "cost of New Fork, April 10, 1884.

A CANADIAN VIEW.

the thanks of the public. The extraordinary attachment over from Washington to this city the other eventor which his electron which his benefit performance is exciting is an earnest that his efforts have been appreciated.

The fall season at the Matropolitan Opera House began on March 10 and ends to-days. Within this effort which his electron of the spring season began on March 10 and ends to-days. Within this opinion of the spring season began on March 10 and ends to-days. Within this price were sold we have had sixty-one performances, including that of this afternoon; forty-five have been me, but are not you William R. Morrison, of Illinois That is my name and address," was the reply.

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That is my name and address," was the reply.

The door-keeper made haste to call an usher and bade him "show this gentleman the best scat in the house." Mr. Morrison took out his wallet to pay for his ticket, but the door-keeper politely informed him that the establishment took great pleasure in extending to him its hospitalities without character.

"Thank you very much," said Mr. Morrison as he put up his money, "but permit me to inquire why this compliment is paid me?"

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"O," the door-keeper explained, "we always make it a rule to place the proprietors of rival shows upon our free list."

"Proprietors of other shows!" exclaimed the original list. Besides these performances he gave to the distribution of very much of the reasoning of tree-strained that it he result on an under the decreased by the impostion of very much of the reasoning of tree-strained that it he proposed that all these theories are the following operas have been given, the titles being on a diameter of each put the following operas have been given, the titles being of